

Deeds and Opportunities

Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

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Brentwood Community United Methodist Church

MARCH 2017



2017 *MARCH* Worship & Preaching Schedule

| SUNDAYS | Scriptures & Sermon Title | WORSHIP ACTS / OTHER ACTIVITIES |
|---|---|---|
| Ash Wednesday March 1, 2017 <u>7 pm</u> | Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 <i>Remember, You Are Dust</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Imposition of Ash & Holy Communion ▪ Wed Prayer from 6:30 to 7:00 (right before Ash Wed Service) |
| First Sunday in Lent March 5, 2017 | Matthew 4:1-11 <i>Living Our Baptismal Calling: (1) Renounce</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Holy Communion ▪ Bean Feed 5:00 pm |
| Second Sunday in Lent March 12, 2017 | Matthew 17:1-9 <i>Living Our Baptismal Calling: (2) Accept</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Little 150th Celebration Sunday (every 2nd Sunday of each month) – wear 150th T-shirt to church ▪ Creative Worship Team: 12pm in Quiet Room |
| Third Sunday in Lent March 19, 2017 | John 4:5-42 <i>Living Our Baptismal Calling: (3) Confess</i> | |
| Fourth Sunday in Lent March 26, 2017 | John 9:1-41 <i>Living Our Baptismal Calling: (4) Nurture</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stephen Ministry Sunday |

WORSHIP MINISTERS FOR MARCH

| Date | Acolyte | Crucifer |
|------|------------------|------------------|
| 3/1 | Kaela Scott | Jacob Lucaks |
| 3/5 | Abby Scott | Jamie Feldermann |
| 3/12 | Christian Belino | Wren Driscoll |
| 3/19 | Robin van Ruitan | Hunter Austin |
| 3/26 | Maeci Scott | Sam Lukacs |

◆ *Pastor's Letter* ◆

Dear Partners in Ministry in B.C.U.M.C.

Lent is my favorite season in the Christian calendar. It helps me to focus more on my life. I get to reflect on how I am doing in opening and listening to God, since my spiritual journey is now up to my small decisions that I make every day. I say this because God has done everything already. Christ has given all for me already. The Holy Spirit has entered into my life already and been ready to help me the moment I let Him. So now it is my turn to do something for my God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

In this Lent, we will do have several opportunities to participate in prayer time:

Wednesday Night Prayer: every Wed from 6:30 to 7:30 in the sanctuary

Praying with Ignatius: March 4th (Sat) 9 am – 1 pm at Byron UMC

Sermon series will focus on Baptismal themes (quotations come from baptismal covenant):

March 1 – Ash Wednesday: **Remember, You are Dust!** “We gather to acknowledge our mortality and our sinfulness, and to seek God’s mercy and guidance for the season of intensive formation and re-formation in the way of Jesus that lies ahead”

March 5 – Lent 1: **Renounce!** “We walk the way of temptation with Jesus and learn from him what it means to continue to renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of our sin”

March 12 – Lent 2: **Accept!** “Through powerful image of new birth and the biblical story of the serpent in the wilderness, Jesus shows Nicodemus and us what it takes for us to accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves”

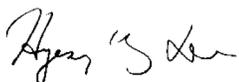
March 19 – Lent 3: **Confess!** “In an encounter with a woman at a well in Samaria, Jesus confesses he is the Messiah, and she not only embraces this, but leads others to make the same confession”

March 26 – Lent 4: **Nurture!** “The response of the crowds to Jesus’ healing of a man born blind says much about how our congregation can actively ‘nurture one another in the Christian faith and life, and include these persons now before you in your care,’ or fail to do so

April 2 – Lent 5: **Believe!** “The faith we confess, and the faith that transforms us, is more than intellectual assent to a theological construct. It is to stake our lives on the Triune God, and so join Martha’s confession, ‘Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into this world’”

Let us walk our Lenten journey together with prayers and our little effort to change ourselves in response to God’s forever grateful works of grace and love!

Praise and Thanks be to God!



Your Pastor, Hyesung Lee

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

By Dennis Buckley

The Board of Trustees is responsible for overseeing the buildings and property owned by the Brentwood Community United Methodist Church. That is a challenging mission considering our church was constructed 130 years ago, the Social Hall 80 years ago and the Sunday School 60 years ago. The Parsonage is the newcomer – it's only about 15 years old.

The Trustees met Wednesday, February 15, 2017 and discussed several items involving church facilities. The most pressing item was the repair of the heater at the Parsonage. A repairman went to the Parsonage and replaced the main circuit board. That fixed the problem – but two days later another part failed and had to be replaced. Trustees are concerned about finding a long-term solution – perhaps replacing the heating and cooling system at the Parsonage.

Another project discussed by the Trustees is the long-awaited video projection system in the Sanctuary. We have had the projectors and screens since last fall but we have had problems finding a contractor to install them. We finally found a contractor last December, but he was not able to start then due to other commitments. Installation is scheduled to begin Monday, February 27. The Sanctuary will be cluttered with construction equipment (ladders, lifts, etc.) for that week – and maybe a few days into the following week. The contractor has promised that the Sanctuary will be safe to use even though it may be a little unsightly. In addition to the work in the Sanctuary, the contractor will have to open the wall next to the Social Hall restroom. Again, the room will always be kept safe to use but it won't be pretty.

The contractor's bid for the Video Project was higher than anticipated and the Video Project committee is short about \$5,000 for the project. **The Trustees voted to loan \$5,000 from the repair budget so the project can go forward. Donations for the Video Project would be extremely welcome. However, please do not reduce your regular giving to support the Video Project.** Any donations over the immediate \$5,000 need will be held for the next phase – a projector and screen for the Social Hall.

Two projects involving sidewalks were approved. Some new sidewalks will be constructed in the back yard of Love for Learning (the preschool next to the church). Also a new sidewalk will be built leading from the parking area on the alley by the Social Hall around to the front steps of the church.

H.O.P.E. House has been broken into twice this winter and the storage sheds behind H.O.P.E. House have been broken into twice also. The locks have been changed and Trustees are looking into additional security – perhaps an alarm system or a video surveillance system.

Weather permitting, the Trustees will do a "Walk-About" after church Sunday, March 5. We will be looking at the property and making lists of things that need repair, replacement or just some TLC. Obviously, we will not be able to do everything on the list we make, but we will have a starting point to start making a list of priorities. Trustees would like to invite anyone who has an interest in the upkeep of the church property to join us on the "Walk-About". Grab a cup of coffee and a cookie and walk around the church with us!

The Trustees will meet again at 7:30pm on Wednesday, March 15. If anyone has a concern about our buildings and properties, feel free to attend the meeting or contact one of the Trustees. Members of the Board of Trustees are: Jeff Schults, Adella Logan, Sean Clarke, Betty Gaughan, David Funk, Joyce Sorenson, Don Barnhill and Dennis Buckley.



Ash Wednesday Service at 7 pm March 1, 2017
Come for time for Prayer, Imposition of Ash, and Holy Communion

**Come 30 minutes early for Wednesday Night Prayer that begins at 6:30pm*

Let Us Pray
for the Following Members and Friends of BCUMC!

(This list is provided by our Congregational Care Network of Brentwood Community UMC. If you want to add names or make any change in this list, please contact Linda Barnhill at 634-8521 or Michael Ann Honea at 516-9541.)



For Homebound: Barbara Bonnickson, Lou Bronzan, James Collins, Cliff Fortner,
Geraldine Dupuich (Diana Easley's mom),
Laura Breitenbucher (Cheryl's mom)
Nadden Mills (Mother of Roxanna Simas)
Chuck Graham (son of Esther Graham)

For Healing: Beverly Hendrix, Renee Miller, Marsha Carlson (Joyce Sorenson's daughter)
Sheila Logan (Adella Logan's mother in law), Lee Daversa (Joyce Sorenson's son-in-law)
Trina Ortega (daughter-in-law of Doug Treadway)

We pray for you and your care-givers that God may fill you every day with strength, faith, love and peace!

We pray for the following families who have lost their loved ones.
May God be with them with comfort and peace!

Praying with Ignatius through Lent

**Saturday, March 4, 9am-1pm
and Saturday, April 8, 1-3 pm
At Byron UMC**

Lent begins on March 1st (Wednesday) this New Year! Brentwood UMC and Byron UMC will join together in a Lent spiritual journey.

Rev. Chris Shiber (Byron UMC) will introduce us to St. Ignatius of Loyola's way of praying, and share some of his "exercises" with us, which will deepen our relationship with Jesus, especially during the season when he is making his way to his death in Jerusalem.

The first retreat will introduce the prayer exercise. Then we will practice individually during Lent and join together in the second gathering for reflection on our prayer journey.

*Sign-up sheet will be in Narthex every Sunday!

HELP NEEDED for BCUMC NURSERY CARE

SPRC (Staff-Parish Relations Committee) is searching for Back-up Nursery Care/Babysitter(s) for Sunday morning services or other events when our two regular Nursery Care-Givers are unavailable. The person(s) could be paid caregivers or volunteers from the congregation. First Aid certification is preferred but not required. Safe Sanctuary training will be provided and a background check will be necessary for any applicants.

Please direct inquiries to Joy Kick at (925) 625-4627 or (925) 434-8968 or JJTM_K@yahoo.com.

VOYAGERS



SAVE THE DATE!!

SATURDAY - MARCH 25th - 3:00-6:30 pm

**Mexican Train game and Dinner
In the Fellowship Hall**

**More information to follow. You may call
Linda Walton at 925.240.4474 for information**

MARCH 10th: “THE SHACK” MOVIE NIGHT AND GROUP DISCUSSION



Please join us at 5:00pm on March 10th to view the movie “The Shack”.

Based on the New York Times best-selling novel, “The Shack” takes us on a father's uplifting spiritual journey. After suffering a family tragedy, Mack Phillips [Sam Worthington] spirals into a deep depression causing him to question his innermost beliefs. Facing a crisis of faith, he receives a mysterious letter urging him to an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness.

Despite his doubts, Mack journeys to the shack and encounters an enigmatic trio of strangers led by a woman named Papa [Octavia Spencer]. Through this meeting, Mack finds important truths that will transform his understanding of his tragedy and change his life forever.

At BCUMC, we have done a number of small group discussions on the book “The Shack”. Once the movie times are released, we will let you know which viewing we will attend together. We will follow this with a group discussion back at BCUMC. Youth group members will also attend, making this a truly Intergenerational event and discussion.

by Julius Lucas

Stephen Ministry Training **Begins April 27th**

- ❖ What is Stephen Ministry? It is one-to-one Christian care to people going through tough times. A trained Stephen Minister usually provided care to one person at a time, meeting once a week for about an hour. As of 2015 Stephen Ministry, a Worldwide Ministry, consisted of 12,000 congregations, 160 Christian denominations, and 65000 trained Stephen Ministers
- ❖ Eligibility:
 - Member of St John’s Lutheran Church, Antioch
 - Member of United Methodist Church, Brentwood
 - Age 21 or older.
- ❖ Training:
 - 50 hours training in Christian care-giving skills
 - We ask a \$50.00 donation for training materials
 - Begin date: Thursday, April 27th @ 7:00 pm, through Thursday, Aug. 10.
 - Classes will be about 2 hrs duration every Thursday evening consisting of lecture and practice.
 - Three Saturday retreats are scheduled. Approx (6) hrs, on 5/20, 6/17, and 7/29. This includes continental breakfast, breaks, snacks and lunch.
 - Commissioning at St. John’s on Sunday, Aug. 27th which is a big celebration!
- ❖ Commitment after training:
 - Faithfully call on their assigned care receiver once a week for approximately 1 hour
 - We ask for a two year commitment to the ministry
 - We also ask for a commitment to attend a peer supervision session twice a month.
- ❖ For Questions, please contact Rev. Hyesung Lee at 925-303-9339 or hslee3@gmail.com or Diana Easley at 925-595-3052 or dleasley@gmail.com

United Methodist Men's annual BEAN FEED Sunday, March 5th 5pmth

This yearly event has become great fun.

The United Methodist Men host this fundraising event to support its yearly scholarships. Please join us March 5th for a good cause and great fun. Individual tickets are \$5 and Family tickets are \$15.



Celebrate 150 years of
God's Love and Our Faith

Sunday, March 12

Wear your 150th t-shirt

or.....check out our t-shirts for sale

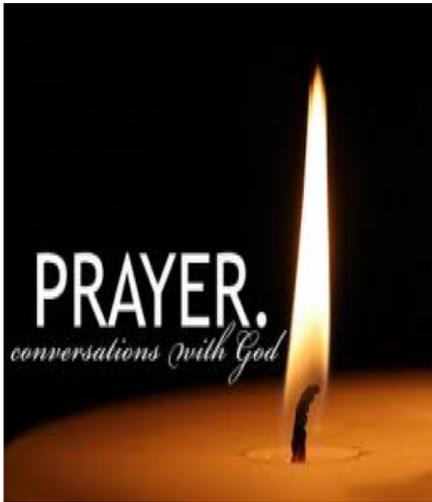
150th Mugs for sale

New...150th Note Cards

“FAT TUESDAY” PANCAKE DINNER- FEBRUARY 28

The BCUMC Youth Ministries invites you to a Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner on Tuesday, February 28 at 6:pm. In days gone by, early Christians observed the 40-day Lenten season as a time of fasting. The faithful were forbidden by the church to consume meat, butter, eggs or milk. In order to keep these foods from spoiling, they would have to be consumed by the Tuesday before Lent started.

Join us for a feast of fellowship and fun and eat some yummy flapjacks with your favorite toppings along with other breakfast treats! Questions, please contact youth@brentwoodumc.org. Proceeds will benefit upcoming service projects.



WEDNESDAY PRAYER

The Sanctuary will open from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm for anyone who wants to pray individually in a quiet place until the end of Lent on April 12 (Wednesday)

Candles will be provided for those who wish to light a candle for someone or for some cause.

You may leave your prayer requests in the basket. The prayer team will pray for them!

FOR LENT

Less barking - more wagging
 More kindness - less nagging
 Less worry - more faith
 More tolerance - less hate
 More loving - less all mine
 Less fearing - more God time
 Less fretting - except on guitar
 More betting - on Bethlehem's star
 Less trying to be right - more inner peace
 Less holding of grudges - more willing to release
 Less complaining - more thankful
 Less explaining - more joyful
 Less gossip - more living
 Less controlling - more forgiving
 Less resisting - more listening
 Less self berating - more self appreciating
 Less criticizing - more understanding
 More open minded - more heart expanding
 Less rotten attitude - more laughter
 More trust in God - about the hereafter
 More living life fully - our love all spent
 Less stressing - more blessing
 More singing - for Lent.

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2 Ogechi Ekpemiro
 10 Barbara Pinkston
 12 Rick Dunn
 15 Marjorie Walton
 18 Myron Sorenson
 24 Nate Clarke
 25 Chu Ekpemiro
 25 Don Fraley
 26 Annalise Hanel
 28 Esther Graham
 29 Charlie Johnson



18 Lisa & Paul Slay
 26 Robin Harmell & Loren Jenks

Is your name missing from our birthday or anniversary list?? Please let me know! Contact Betty Gaughan at 925.513.3863 or partgone@sbglobal.net